Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7814
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ECON, EFIN, EINV, PDEV, SL

SUBJ: GOSL CONTEMPLATES U.S. DOLS205 MILLION TAB FOR OAU

CONFERENCE

REF: (A) FREETOWN 1331, (B) BELGRADE 3095, (C) FREETOWN A-12

1. DIRECTOR OF TOURISM TOLD EMBOFF GOSL IS NOW PREPARED TO GO AHEAD WITH AN APPROXIMATE U.S. DOLS205 MILLION PACKAGE FOR THE 1980 OAU CONFERENCE. (REFTELS A AND B.) GOSL HAS REQUESTED THE YUGOSLAVIAN FIRM OF ENERGOPROJEKT TO SIGN A CONSTRUCTION AGREEENT AMOUNTING TO ABOUT U.S. DOLS 180 MILLION. FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY ENERGOPROJEKT INCLUDE A NEW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, LUXURY HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER. LOCAL BUSINESSMEN ARE EXPECTED TO CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL FACILITIES FOR U.S. DOLS25 MILLION.

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2. GOSL EXPECTS THE BANK OF SIERRA LEONE TO FINANCE ABOUT U.S. DOLS50 MILLION AND THE YUGOSLAV EXPORT CREDIT FUND BETWEEN U.S. DOLS20 AND DOLS25 MILLION. GOSL WILL PROPOSE TO ENERGOPROJEKT THAT CONSTRUCTION BE DOME IN STAGES AS ADDITIONAL FINANCING BECOMES AVAILABLE. GOSL CONTINUES TO HOPE THAT PERSIAN GULF STATES MIGHT FINANCE SOME PORTION OF THE PROJECT.

3. IN ADDITION TO ENERGOPROJEKT SCHEME, LOCAL BUSINESSMEN PLAN TO SECURE FINANCING FROM AN AUSTRIAN-SWISS GROUP FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A LUXURY HOTEL AND THE REFURNISHING OF AN EXISTING HOTEL AT LUMLEY BEACH. THIS LOAN, REPUTEDLY, WOULD BE FOR U.S. DOLS25 MILLION AT 10 PERCENT OVER TWO TO THREE YEARS.

4. FOR BELGRADE: WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AS TO STATUS OF ENERGOPROJEKT/GOSL NEGOTIATIONS.

 $5.\ FOR\ ABU\ DHABI,\ JIDDA,\ DUWAIT:\ WOULD\ APPRECIATE\ ANY\ INFORMATION\ AS\ TO\ POSSIBILITIES\ OF\ GULF\ STATES'\ FINANCING.\ LINEHAN$

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